



**RULES and REGULATIONS**  
**L'OREAL-UNESCO FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE**  
**INTERNATIONAL RISING TALENTS**  
**2022 EDITION**

Please carefully read the eligibility criteria. Some restrictions apply.

**1. Introduction**

Since the beginning of the L'Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science* program, more than 3600 women scientists have been recognized in 117 countries. The program identifies and supports women in science at each step of their careers throughout the world.

The International Rising Talents program (IRT) rewards the best candidates each year among national and regional programs. This program is aimed at PhD or Post-doctoral candidates as well as Medical doctors doing research. Only winners of national and regional program are eligible to apply for the IRT program.

The winners will receive an award of € 15,000 and will participate in a training program specifically designed as a career booster to help the next generation of women scientists achieve the highest echelons in their scientific careers.

This advanced training will take place in Paris during the *For Women in Science* Week.

The International Rising Talents cover each of the five regions:

- Africa and the Arab States
- Asia and the Pacific
- Europe
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- North America

**2. Eligibility Criteria**

- a) Applicants must be recipients of 2020 or 2021 *For Women in Science* national or regional Young Talents endowments.
- b) Applicants must be starting or currently enrolled in research.
- c) Applicants must be pursuing research in the field of Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Engineering and Formal Sciences.
- d) Applicants must be under 45 on October 7, 2021 - closing date of the call for applications.
- e) Applicants are strongly encouraged to do some research abroad before going back to their home country

- f) Applicants must be still enrolled in their research work at the time of the ceremony because this endowment is meant to be a support in their project research.

### **3. Application Form and Supporting Documents**

Eligible applicants must provide, **in English**:

- a) A detailed description (maximum 2 pages), in English, of their research; (in Times New Roman, with standard margins, "12" font size and a minimum of one single line spacing for ease of reading),
- b) A list of the most 3 to 5 significant publications (with the information about the Impact Factor of the Journal and number of citations of the given publication if any)
- c) At least, two signed letters of recommendation from:
- The thesis supervisor,
  - The acceptance letter from the Director of the host laboratory/institution,
  - If possible, a letter from a peer in the research field of the thesis and/or post-doctoral project.

The content of these exemplified and detailed letters must have two main dimensions (know-how and interpersonal skills):

- Recognition of the scientific quality and importance of the work carried out in the thesis and planned in the post-doctoral project (originality, scientific scope, even economic and social scope). It is important to show how it has really contributed to the area.
  - Appreciation of the researcher's human qualities, her autonomy, her inventiveness, her creativity and her ability to interact effectively, productively and benevolently and with others (sharing, listening, mentoring...)
- d) A duly completed application form (applications can only be submitted electronically through the online platform: <https://www.forwomeninscience.com/authority/international-rising-talents>)
- e) for doctoral candidates a copy of an official transcript of your last graduate studies,
- f) for post-doctoral candidates, proof of having obtained a Ph.D. degree or equivalent, at most 5 years ago,
- g) a letter from a host institution/organization (i.e.: the institute where the applicant is currently working).

**APPLICATION PROCEDURES:** No paper applications are accepted. All applications must be registered online before October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

## **h) Selection:**

- a) Selection of successful applicants is made by a panel of international scientists.
- b) All applications will be examined by this panel comprised of experts from a variety of disciplines in Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Engineering and Formal Sciences (Mathematics and Computer Sciences), who will select the best candidates in accordance with the evaluation criteria mentioned below.
- c) Deliberations will take place in November 2021 at which time the panel will review and discuss the best applicants for each region. The panel of scientists chooses the 15 winners. Its decision is final and without appeal. It cannot be contested or subject to explanation or justification.
- d) The results will be communicated by phone or email to the winners at the end of the deliberation process. The announcement must remain confidential until the official ceremony in March 2022.
- e) Evaluation criteria<sup>1</sup>:
  - Academic performance;
  - Research proposal:
    - describes the overall research, the significance, novelty and potential impact of the research;
    - demonstrates innovation, imagination and relevance;
    - considers scientific solutions to problems confronting humankind in the 21st century;
    - promises to contribute to knowledge in the candidate's field of research and has the potential to promote science in her country and internationally;
    - respects the maximum 2 pages in length;
  - Research summary is written in clear, plain language and is no longer than 200 words;
  - Quality and relevance of the reference letters.

## **i) Commitments**

- a) Participate in the on-site training. Attend the training sessions every day.
- b) Pursue the research.
- c) Participate in the official ceremony and the different events organized in Paris in March 2022 in the framework of the *For Women in Science Week*.

Travel and accommodation expenses during the International Rising Talents' stay in Paris for the training and for the *For Women in Science Week* will be covered by the Fondation L'Oréal.

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<sup>1</sup> Please find the evaluation grid in Appendix 1

- d) Keep their announcement confidential until the official ceremony and do not contact the media.
- e) Agree to be photographed, filmed and interviewed for non-commercial objectives and for *For Women in Science* program-related purposes. These photos, videos and texts will be used in publications and audiovisual media including, but not limited to, written press, television, internet, outdoor display, corporate publications, exhibitions, in France and worldwide.

The image of the International Rising Talents can be used for promotion of science among the younger generation, particularly young women. A separate written authorization will be signed by each of the winners. The International Rising Talents will not receive any remuneration for such promotional activity.

The payment of the endowments (€15,000 each) will be made directly to the winners after the official ceremony, and after having received the necessary original documents for the funds transfer.

**j) Provisional Timetable**

- Opening of online platform: July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- Applications closing date: October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- Assessment by the Selection Committee: mid-October to mid November 2022
- Announcement to the winners: end of November 2022
- *For Women in Science* week: March 2022
- Official Ceremony: March 2022

**APPENDIX 1**  
**Assessment criteria**  
**2022 EDITION**

<b>Assessment Grid</b>		
<b>Project Summary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific pertinence</li> <li>• Objectives, scope and motivation</li> <li>• Well written, easily understood, sharp, good compliance of instructions (length of summary, Font etc.)</li> </ul>	1 to 5 points Multiplier (1)
<b>Project Significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationship to scientific ‘state of the art’</li> <li>• Significance of scientific approaches; scientific/technical merit of project</li> <li>• Potential of translatability</li> </ul>	1 to 5 points Multiplier (3)
<b>Research Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearly stated research questions and purpose; originality of concept</li> <li>• Provides brief summary of problem and how proposed research would go about solving problem</li> <li>• Scope of project feasible in regard to time and resource limits</li> </ul>	1 to 5 points Multiplier (4)
<b>Methodology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design adequate to support the study’s objectives</li> </ul>	1 to 5 points Multiplier (3)
<b>Letters of reference</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The recommendation letters should discuss both the scholarly capabilities and personal character of the candidate as well as a broader range of qualities and experiences</li> </ul>	1 to 5 points Multiplier (2)
<b>Contribution to science</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Researcher’s potential to make a significant contribution in her field or for her country</li> <li>• Research proposal is relevant to issues in their national setting</li> <li>• Publications / patents</li> </ul>	1 to 5 points Multiplier (5)
<b>Academics &amp; Career path</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awards and honors</li> <li>• Consistently high academic performance or steady improvement</li> <li>• Quality of curriculum</li> <li>• Career path in the local context</li> </ul>	1 to 5 points Multiplier (1)
<b>Commitments and mobility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commitments to scientific community, mentoring, leadership skills etc.</li> <li>• International mobility in relation to your scientific project</li> </ul>	1 to 5 points Multiplier (1)
<b>1 = Unsatisfactory; 2 = Average; 3 = Good; 4 = Excellent; 5 = Outstanding</b>		<b>Total= 100 pts</b>